

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**THE *ANGIN* OF THE *DALANG* IN THE  
KELANTAN SHADOW PLAY**

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**Thesis submitted in fulfillment  
of the requirements for the degree of  
Doctor of Philosophy**

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## AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

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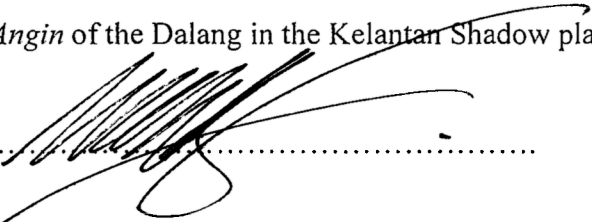
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## ABSTRACT

It is said that the journey of the *Dalang* of the Kelantan Shadow play is first and foremost determined by the existence of the *Angin* in him for without which, this vocation will not materialise. Once confirmed, he will undergo the basic, intermediate and advanced level of the 'Way of the *Dalang*'. There are twelve types of *Angin* in the human that is divided into three. First is the *Angin* found in all Malay traditional arts inclusive of *Wayang Kulit* and *Mak Yong*. It is also present in the traditional Kelantan arts through lineage that includes *Dalang Wayang Kulit* (Malay Shadow play *Dalang*), *Bomoh* (healer) or *Dukun*, *Bidan* (midwife), *Tukang Urut* (masseur). The third is the *Angin* called *Saka* and this seem to point to the darker side of the *Angin*. This thesis is concerned only with the first and the second type of *Angin* while acknowledging the existence of the third. *Angin* is also said to be a concept of energy or soul or *semangat*, or *nafsu* that could also lead to pity or *belas* and intense pleasure or as an artistic temperament. Some *Dalangs* also added the word *kehendak* (will) as the *Angin* while agreeing to the word *semangat* (will), *nafsu* (ego/consciousness) and *belas* (Mercy) and *nafas* (breath). However, in all of the definitions above, none has explained in detail what the *Angin* is and how it is derived. The *Angin* of the *Dalang* in this research has been determined to reside in the Internal knowledge of the *Dalang*. Its presence is in the advanced training known as *Sumpah Aturan Rahsia* (The Oath of Secrecy). It consists of the process of '*Penyatuan dan Penyebatian* (Union and Subsistence), *Pertapaan/ Meditasi* (Meditation) and *Mantera* (Invocation). Through purposive sampling, the words uttered by the *Dalang* in the in-depth interviews conducted and what is revealed about their training, before or pre-performance knowledge, the stories during the performances and the characters involved becomes the clues and signposts in developing the idea of the *Angin* within the *Dalang*. By applying the qualitative method which includes In-depth interview through the approach of Islamic Mysticism and Philosophy, the researcher is able to interpret the meaning (*Ta'wil*) of the *Angin* of the *Dalang* and its instrumentation internally and externally. It is found that the *Angin* of the *Dalang* is the spiritual principle guiding him in the process of *menanggung pesaka* (safeguarding tradition). This is seen as the survival kit that will determine the survival of the *Dalang* of the Kelantan Shadow play with Islam as its pillar.

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